



THE JUDGES

A: Novels – Rob Van Wagoner, Washington

Robert Hodgson Van Wagoner's first novel, *Dancing Naked*, was awarded the Utah Center for the Book's Utah Book Award and the Utah Arts Council's Publication Prize. His short stories have appeared in literary journals, magazines, ezines and anthologies, and have been selected for various awards, including Carolina Quarterly's Charles B. Wood Award for Distinguished Writing, Shenandoah's Jeanne Charpiot Goodheart Award for Fiction, Sunstone's Brookie and D.K. Brown Memorial Fiction Award, and Weber Studies' Dr. O. Marvin Lewis Award for Best Fiction. Van Wagoner's two forthcoming novels are *Cautionary Tales*, a literary thriller set in Ogden, Utah, and *Come the Stygian Night*, a literary thriller set on the western slope of the North Cascades. He and his family live in Washington State.

B: Biography/Autobiography – Kate Gale, California

Dr. Kate Gale is Managing Editor of Red Hen Press, Editor of the *Los Angeles Review* and President of the American Composers Forum, LA. She teaches in the Low Residency MFA program at the University of Nebraska in Poetry, Fiction and Creative Non-Fiction. She serves on the boards of A Room of Her Own Foundation, the School of Arts and Humanities of Claremont Graduate University and Poetry Society of America. She is also the author of five books of poetry.

C: Collection of Stories – Donald Caswell, Kansas

Donald Caswell is a writer and editor in Kansas City, Kansas. He is the author of the books *Three Legged Dog* and *Watching the Sun Go Down*. He is a former Managing Editor of Anhinga Press, and has edited many journals and anthologies.

D: Young Adult Book – Al Young, California

Al Young's honors include Wallace Stegner, Guggenheim, Fulbright, National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships, the PEN-Library of Congress Award for Short Fiction, the PEN-USA Award for Non-Fiction, two American Book Awards, two Pushcart Prizes, two New York Times Notable Book of the year citations, an Arts Council Silicon Valley Fellowship, the Stephen Henderson Achievement Award for Poetry, Radio Pacifica's KPFA Peace Prize, the Glenna Luschei Distinguished Poetry Fellowship, and the Richard Wright Award for Excellence in Literature. At its May 2009 commencement, Whittier College conferred on him its highest honor: the Doctor of Humane Letters degree. Young's many books include novels, collections of poetry, essays, memoirs and anthologies. His work has appeared in *Paris Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Essence*, the *New York Times*, *Chicago Review*, *Seattle Review*, *Brilliant Corners: A Journal of Jazz & Literature*, *Chelsea*, *Rolling Stone*, *Gathering of the Tribes*, the *Norton Anthology of African American Literature*, and the *Oxford Anthology of African American Literature*.

E: Poetry – Wyn Cooper, Vermont

Wyn Cooper has published four books of poems: *The Country of Here Below* (Ahsahta Press, 1987), *The Way Back* (White Pine Press, 2000), *Postcards from the Interior*, (BOA Editions, 2005), and *Chaos is the New Calm* (BOA Editions, 2010), as well as a chapbook, *Secret Address* (Chapiteau Press, 2002). His poems, stories, essays, and reviews have appeared in *Poetry*, *Ploughshares*, *Slate*, *Crazyhorse*, *Agni*, *The Southern Review*, and more than 60 other magazines. His poems are included in 25 anthologies of contemporary poetry, including *Poetry: An Introduction* (Sixth Edition), *The Mercury Reader*, *Outsiders*, and *Ecstatic Occasions, Expedient Forms*. In 1993, “Fun,” a poem from his first book, was turned into Sheryl Crow’s Grammy-winning song “All I Wanna Do.” He has also co-written songs with David Broza, David Baerwald, and Jody Redhage. In 2003, Gaff Music released *Forty Words for Fear*, a CD of songs based on poems and lyrics by Cooper, set to music and sung by the novelist Madison Smartt Bell. It has been featured on NPR’s Weekend Edition and World Café, and has been written about in *Esquire*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The New York Observer*, and elsewhere. Songs from the CD have been featured on 5 television shows and in one film.

F: Short Story – Rob Van Wagoner, Washington

Robert Hodgson Van Wagoner’s first novel, *Dancing Naked*, was awarded the Utah Center for the Book’s Utah Book Award and the Utah Arts Council’s Publication Prize. His short stories have appeared in literary journals, magazines, ezines and anthologies, and have been selected for various awards, including Carolina Quarterly’s Charles B. Wood Award for Distinguished Writing, Shenandoah’s Jeanne Charpiot Goodheart Award for Fiction, Sunstone’s Brookie and D.K. Brown Memorial Fiction Award, and Weber Studies’ Dr. O. Marvin Lewis Award for Best Fiction. Van Wagoner’s two forthcoming novels are *Cautionary Tales*, a literary thriller set in Ogden, Utah, and *Come the Stygian Night*, a literary thriller set on the western slope of the North Cascades. He and his family live in Washington State.

G: Essay – Rick Campbell, Florida

Rick Campbell's newest book is *Dixmont*, from Autumn House Press. His other books are *A Day's Work* (State Street Press); *The Traveler's Companion* (Black Bay Books, 2004); and *Setting the World in Order* (Texas Tech University Press, 2001), which won the Walt McDonald Prize. He is the director of Anhinga Press and the Anhinga Prize for Poetry, and he teaches English at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida. He lives with his wife and daughter in Gadsden County, Florida.